

The Bible as

ONE BOOK

THE PERFECTED KINGDOM

It's been nine weeks, eight kingdoms, and thousands of years of history. We've seen mistakes made and lessons learned. We've seen promises broken by imperfect people, we've seen outright sin and disobedience against a holy God. We've heard promise after promise and have experienced waiting, after waiting, after waiting. Yet despite our ability to be faithful, wait patiently, and be obedient, God was still reigning on his throne; it is His kingdom after all.

But after all of this, the Bible is still one, amazing book!

1. We've made it to the end! Well, at least until Jesus comes again and starts the beginning of forever. Parents, spend some time sharing with your children what you've learned this series. Maybe ask each person in your family to share a favourite!

2. Write out the titles of the kingdoms on eight separate pieces of paper (Pattern, Perished, Promised, Partial, Prophesied, Present, Proclaimed, Perfected). Mix them up and see if your children can put them all in the right order. If they are struggling, don't tell them the answer, use what you've learned this series to give them hints and suggestions (ex. For the Promised Kingdom: "In this kingdom, God told Abraham that he would use his family to bring Jesus to the world. Abraham could trust that this would happen because God never breaks his _____").

3. What does it mean to “wait?” What are some things that we wait for in our lives? Share as a family, if you like waiting, what are some things you do to help you wait? How can we grow in patience if we don’t like waiting?

4. “What are you waiting for” was a phrase we heard many times in this week’s sermon. The first time we heard this phrase helped us think about what followers of Jesus are waiting for when Jesus returns one day. What is something you are waiting for as a parent that you can share with your children? (Sometimes we can be tempted to believe things about the Perfected Kingdom that simply aren’t Biblical. For example, “We turn into angels and sit on clouds,” “everyone plays the harp for all eternity,” “everyone goes to heaven” Depending on your child, you may want to help teach them what we ARE waiting for in this kingdom.)

5. The second time we heard the phrase, “What are you waiting for?” it was meant as a question for every single person. What are some of the reasons someone might have in not wanting to put their faith in Jesus? Parents, how does hearing this entire series help you encourage your children to consider how amazing God’s plan of rescue for the world is? (Note: Sharing the gospel with and evangelizing to a child should be delicate and sensitive. Remember, children are impressionable. They will (especially when younger) often obey an invitation you give them to follow Christ. But the goal is genuine and self-initiated repentance. As a parent, you never want to scare your child into heaven, or their desire to be to please their parent. Be sure to present clearly, what faith in Jesus is and how one becomes part of the people of God, in God’s place, under God’s rule and blessing.)

6. Spend some time as a family praying and thanking God for His one book that He has given to the world. Thank Him that in this story we get to know Him and how amazing He is. Pray that God will continue to help your family grow in their love and understanding of the Bible in the days, months, and years to come!